Scribneria bolanderi (Thurb.) Hackel

Scribner-grass
Poaceae (Grass Family)

Status: State Sensitive
Rank: G3G4S1

General Description: Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1969): Glabrous annual 2 to 12 inches tall. Ligules 1/16 to 1/8 inch long, slightly puberulent, entire. Blades <1/16 inch broad, involute, ½ to 1¼ inch long. Spike usually about half the height of the plant. Spikelets 1/8 to ¼ inch long (exclusive of the awn). Glumes usually reddish (purplish)-tinged, exceeding the lemma. Callus of the floret short-bearded. Lemma with a straight awn 1/16 to 1/8 inch long from a shortly bifid apex.

Identification Tips: This taxon can be distinguished from all other grasses by its small size, reddish or purplish-tinged color, un-branched inflorescence with spikelets sunken into opposite sides of the stem. It is also the only member of its genus that occurs in our area.

Phenology: Blooms April through May.

Range: Klickitat County, Washington, southwest Oregon, and California.

Habitat: The two known occurrences in Washington are in grass and forb dominated habitats. The species grows in dry, sandy to rocky soil, sometimes along roadsides. In California, the species grows from sea level to 9000 feet.

Ecology: There are numerous non-native annual species that occur within the sites occupied by this species. These weedy annual species may pose a serious threat to the long-term survival of *Scribneria bolanderi* at these sites. The direct effects of grazing on this species are not know.

State Status Comments: There are only two known occurrences in Washington.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed in Klickitat County.

Scribneria bolanderi

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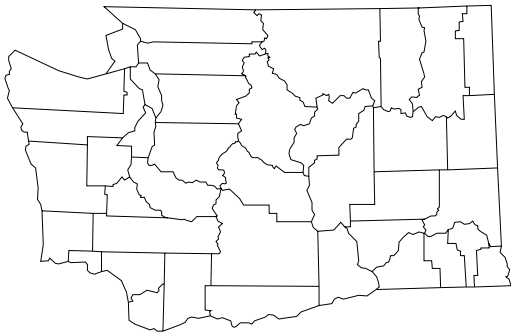
Known distribution of *Scribneria bolanderi* in Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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Threats and Management Concerns: Grazing potentially poses a threat to this species, primarily through an increase in weedy species. Roadside maintenance may pose a threat for one of the two occurrences, since it is within the road right-of-way. Recreational use, primarily trampling by hikers, could pose a localized threat for a portion of one of the two known occurrences in Washington.

References:

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1969. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 1: Vascular Cryptogams, Gymnosperms, and Monocotyledons.* University of Washington Press, Seattle. 914 pp.

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